

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-01

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P R 111907Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 04280

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION (US-AFRICA)

1. "JEUNE AFRIQUE", DATED FEBRUARY 13, CARRIES EDITORIAL BY PUBLISHER BECHIR BEN YAHMED TITLED "THE REPULSER REPULSED". TWO PAGES LONG, IT EXAMINES US AND SOVIET POLICY IN AFRICA SINCE 1960 IN GENERAL TERMS. TONE IS MILDLY FAVORABLE TO USSR, WHILE CRITICAL OF US FOR CONTENTING ITSELF WITH PLAYING "SUPPLEMENTARY OR COMPLEMENTARY" ROLE TO THAT OF EX-COLONIAL POWERS.

2. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES: "MR. KISSINGER, WHO 'THREATENS' TO VISIT AFRICA--I TREMBLE AT THOUGHT OF PORCELAIN THIS ELEPHANT WILL BREAK IN COURSE OF JOURNEY--UNDERSTANDS AFRICA NO BETTER THAN HIS PRESIDENT, MR. FORD. BUT HE IS NEVERTHELESS INTELLIGENT AND ONE CAN TELL HIM THAT HIS OBVIOUS PROPENSITY TO COUNT ON SOUTH AFRICA DUE TO REALPOLITIK IS, LIKE HIS NO LONGER CONCEALED ZIONISM, LEADING HIM, HIM AND HIS COUNTRY, TO LOSE THE GAME--IN DUE COURSE--IN AFRICA AS IN MIDDLE EAST. A SADAT HERE, A KAOUNDA THERE CAN BE MISLED, NOT PERMANENTLY THE PEOPLES.

3. "AND I WOULD ADD TO HIM ON MY OWN BEHALF (BUT HE INTERESTS US SO MUCH LESS NOW THAT HIS DAYS ARE AS NUM-
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BERED AS HIS POWER IS LIMITED) AND ON BEHALF OF AFRICAN

LEADERS: YOU WILL ONLY MEASURE THE ENORMITY OF THE
CHANGES IN POSITION OF TWO SUPERPOWERS IN AFRICA IF YOU
PERCEIVE WELL THAT THERE IS SOMEWHERE IN KREMLIN A NEW
FOSTER DULLES WHO HAS DECIDED TO REPULSE AMERICA AND
ITS 'LACKEYS'. FROM AFRICA, IN ANY CASE.

4/. "THE REPULSER REPULSED, IN SHORT. AND "MANU MILITARI"
... (END OF EDIT).

5. SAME ISSUE "JEUNE AFRIQUE" CONTAINS ESSAY BY STAFFER
SENNEN ANDRIAMIRADO TITLED "AT THE HOUR OF CHOICE".
BEGINNING WITH OBSERVATION THAT "AMERICAN AUTHORITIES
ARE PREPARING TO REDUCE UNCLE SAM'S AID TO COUNTRIES
THAT 'VOTE WRONG' AT UNITED NATIONS, HE DISCUSSES
MOYNIHAN THESIS THAT THIRD WORLD CONSTITUTES BLOC THAT
MUST BE BROKEN.

6. EXCERPTS: "IN FIRST PLACE, REPRISALS OF THIS TYPE
CONFIRM IN THE EYES OF THE MOST DOUBTING THAT WESTERN
ETHNOCENTRISM IS NO SIMPLE FORMULA OF IMPASSIONED
ORATORS... IN SECOND PLACE, THE AMERICAN THREATS POSE A
SERIOUS PROBLEM OF CONSCIENCE TO RULERS OF THIRD WORLD,
WHO WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN RESPECTING THEIR COMMIT-
MENT TO 'SOLIDARITY AMONG OPPRESSED PEOPLES' AND THEIR
DE FACTO DEPENDENCE ON AID-GRANTING COUNTRIES...

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7. "THERE WAS TIME WHEN FORMAL INDEPENDENCE WAS SOLE OBJECTIVE AND THERE WAS TIME WHEN UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES DEMONSTRATED DAILY SOLIDARITY CONCERNING CLAIM OF RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT. TIME HAS PERHAPS COME TO REALIZE THAT DEMANDING INTERNATIONAL AID IS NOT ENOUGH BUT IT ALSO NECESSARY TO NEUTRALIZE THESE THREATS OF REPRISALS BY STRUGGLES THAT FAIRLY LARGE NUMBER OF LEADERS WOULD PROBABLY NOT WILLINGLY UNDERTAKE. THE UNITED STATES KNOWS THIS AND WANTS TO PUSH THE DIALECTIC ALL THE WAY TO RUPTURE OF THIRD WORLD...".

8. OTHER ARTICLES IN SAME ISSUE COMMENT ON RESIGNATION OF MOYNIHAN: "HIS DEPARTURE IN NO WAY AFFECTS AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY REGARDING THIRD WORLD. WHAT HE IS CRITICIZED FOR IS STYLE, NOT COMMENT".

9. ON US AID TO ANGOLA FACTIONS: "SENATE VETO (ON EXPENDITURE FOR ARMS AID) ONLY CONCERNS FY-76. NOT FY-75. NOW, THERE EXISTS RESIDUE OF CREDITS FROM PREVIOUS BUDGET. ABOVE ALL, US ARMY HAS IN PACIFIC --ON ISLAND OF GUAM PRECISELY--IMPRESSIVE ARSENAL, ESTABLISHED DURING TIME OF VIETNAM WAR. SINCE JANUARY 27, AIRLIFT HAS BEEN SET UP TO BRING THIS MATERIAL TO ANGOLA...".

10. ON SAHARA CONFLICT: "INDIFFERENCE OF SUPERPOWERS IS PERHAPS EXPLAINED BY FASCINATING SUCCESS OF MPLA... AND UNCLASSIFIED

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BY FACT THAT USSR, PRUDENT, WOULD SCARCELY LIKE AFTER SO SHORT INTERVAL TO OPEN SECOND WINDOW ON ATLANTIC, FACING AMERICA. ONE CAN IMAGINE THAT KISSINGER WISHES FOR INCREASE IN NUMBER OF SOVIET 'PROVOCATIONS' IN HOPE OF LEADING CONGRESS TO BETTER SENTIMENTS AND TO EXTRACT CREDITS TO FINANCE AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT IN ANGOLA AND ELSEWHERE".

11. ARS PARIS WOULD APPRECIATE OFFICIAL REACTION TO CHARGE (PARA 9) CONCERNING AIRLIFT OF GUAM MATERIAL UNDER FY-75 BUDGET.
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